GRANTS.GOV BUILD 6
GRANTOR SYSTEM ENHANCEMENTS

On October 31, 2005 Grants.gov launched numerous system upgrades and enhancements for both the grant community and Federal grant-making agencies. The upgrade and enhancements topics summarized below include:

[Fedgrants.gov Merge to Grants.gov](#)   [Get Started/Registration Content Update](#)

[Grantor Administration Updates](#)

Fedgrants.gov Merge to Grants.gov

Grants.gov is excited to announce that once again, the date of October 31st marks another important accomplishment for Grants.gov, Federal agencies and the Federal grant community. On Monday, October 31st, Grants.gov will fully merge the two Federal web sites it currently manages: www.fedgrants.gov and www.grants.gov. Beginning on Monday, October 31st, Fedgrants.gov (www.fedgrants.gov) will cease operations and users will be redirected to the Grants.gov homepage.

With the migration, Grants.gov will implement new enhancements and functionality. Grants.gov is fully integrating its search and apply functionality. The enhancements will present a single look and feel for the Find and Apply functions, increase integration between the two functions, and standardize the terminology across both functions to further simply the process of finding and applying for Federal grants.

The enhancements to Grants.gov will provide improvements for both Federal agencies and the grant community.

- For Federal agency representatives, Grants.gov will be a true "one sign-on" system. Federal agency representatives will no longer have a separate sign-on and database access to post opportunities and publish applications. Now, Grantors will be able to define an opportunity and application package in a single flow with the same level of security used with the existing Grantor login process

- For the grant community and Grants.gov users, the integration will be seamless and will provide many new benefits including:

  o Increasing the search capability and functionality for finding grant opportunities

  o Eliminating the need to visit or remember another URL, other than Grants.gov for all Federal grant information

  o Eliminating the need to open a new browser window and leave Grants.gov to access Federal grant opportunities

  o Creating one-stop for grant opportunity email notification and Grants.gov communication subscription services

Additionally, Grants.gov updated the existing search engine to an Oracle Text search engine. The use of the enhanced database and search functionality will be simpler than when previously on www.Fedgrants.gov, and should not require training for either Grantors or grant community users.

Grantors can expect numerous enhancements including:

1. **All FIND Functionality Merged into Grants.gov's APPLY System** – As of October 31st, all FIND functionality was merged into Grants.gov's APPLY system, resulting in a) a single hosting facility and architecture, b) a single database, and c) the reuse of all existing functionality. Now, the combined Find and Apply systems present a single look and feel across the systems, applications, and functionality, as well as through all existing terminology and interface elements.

2. **Apply Security Expanded to Find Log-in** – Now the same level of security used with the existing Grantor login process is expanded to Find. The security roles defined in Apply have been extended to incorporate Find's unique functions to create, attach, and archive a synopsis.

3. **Single Sign-On** – Grantors will benefit from the convenience of one website URL to post opportunities and publish applications—making Grants.gov a true "one sign-on" system. Federal agency representatives will no longer have a separate sign-on and database access to post opportunities and publish applications. For access to the Find functionality at Grants.gov, Grantors will need to coordinate with their Agency POC, to update their Grantor user profiles to include the functionality. Grantor users without a Grants.gov Username and Password, will need to speak with their Agency POC to establish their Grants.gov profile. To identify a correct Agency POC please visit:

http://www.grants.gov/assets/AgencyPointsofContacts.pdf.

4. **New Oracle Text Search Engine** – Grants.gov has updated the Find data and search to an Oracle Text search engine to replace the current search engine. The combined functionality will define an opportunity and application package in a single flow. With all Find and Apply data merged into a single database, the redundancy of data between the Find opportunity and the application package is eliminated. The Apply opportunities structure, which currently stores the application package opportunity, now includes the fields used for the grant synopsis for Find. Additionally, the new Oracle Text search engine has resolved the problems experienced before the merge of the two systems.

Grants.gov has also documented specific enhancements for potential applicants and site users. For detail of these enhancements please visit: http://www.grants.gov/assets/GrantsgovGranteeAnnouncement100405.pdf

We encourage Grantors to share these enhancements with their grant applicant communities. Grants.gov looks forward to these enhancements improving the overall experience for Grantors, applicants, and all users of the site. We look forward to receiving your feedback on these improvements at support@grants.gov.

Get Started/Registration Content Updates:

Get Started Content Update

Grants.gov Get Started has been updated to help users easily get oriented to the main features and functionality Grants.gov has to offer. As a launch pad to the rest of the site for new users, the Get Started tab has been simplified and organized into four main sections directing users to the information they need to help get started with Grants.gov:

Find Grant Opportunities	**Register to Submit Grants Applications**
Apply for Grants	**Resources to Explore**

Each summary section provides a brief description and key links to navigate within the subject area.

Registration Content Update

Grants.gov has also taken a closer look at the Registration process and has updated the site content to make the process easier to understand and follow for new users. Although, the one-time registration process may at first

appear to have many aspects, there are actually three steps to follow to complete the registration at Grants.gov. It's as Easy as 1,2,3:

- **Step 1**: Register your organization

- **Step 2**: Register yourself as an Authorized Organization Representative

- **Step 3**: Get authorized by your organization to submit grants

To help users get started, the site will guide them through the three basic registration steps and provide tools to help them through the entire registration process. Tools are identified by user friendly icons including:

The **Quick Tips** icon to launch a quick tip about a particular step

The **Checklist** icon for a quick listing of processes needed to perform in order to complete each step

The **Training Demonstration** icon to launch context sensitive help about the step where assistance is needed to complete the step

By following these simple instructions, you will be ready to submit your grant application for all of our upcoming grant opportunities.

Grantor Administration Page Updates:

Several enhancements to the grantor administration pages from navigation to overall functionality have been implemented. They include:

- New user enrollment email updated to include agency code details for clarification
- Added a new field to capture Opportunity Category within published applications
- Implement necessary changes to support SF-424 version 2 deployment and Grantor conversation to upgraded global library

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